

to my attention yesterday, when the Chicago Tribune reported that African-Americans account for 67 percent of all newly reported cases of HIV in Chicago. They went on to state that the rate of undiagnosed AIDS cases among women in Chicago has nearly tripled in the last decade, with 80 percent of those women being African-American.

But Chicago is not the only place where people are affected by AIDS. In the words of U.S. Secretary of State, Colin Powell, "AIDS respects no man, woman, or child. It knows no race, religion, class, or creed. No community, country, or continent is immune from its ravages."

Ninety-five percent of those infected with HIV/AIDS live in the developing world. Across the Atlantic, millions of Africans are battling with an epidemic that has ravaged the human capital infrastructure, leaving homes and communities barren. The dreams and hopes of millions of people have been deferred as men, women, and children engage in a losing battle with the silent but powerful enemy that is sweeping and dismantling Africa at an alarming rate. Last year in sub-Saharan Africa alone 2.3 million people have died from AIDS related causes.

HIV/AIDS has made a devastating impact on the fruit of Africa's future, the children. Thirteen million African children have been orphaned due to AIDS, by the end of the decade this number is expected to exceed 40 million.

Global infection rates will continue to rise at alarming rates unless education and treatment options are made available. Recent surveys in 17 countries found that more than half of the adolescents questioned could not name a single method for protecting themselves against HIV/AIDS. In developing nations only 6 to 10 percent of HIV-infected people are receiving treatment for HIV-related opportunistic infection.

If we are serious about finding solutions to this epidemic, then I charge us to commit ourselves to fighting for the humanity of our African brothers and sisters, at whatever the cost. The World Health Organization Commission on Macroeconomics and Health estimates that the cost of mounting an effective global response to HIV/AIDS could reach \$14 billion by 2007. This figure includes programs for prevention, care, and treatment.

We must provide life-saving drugs at reasonable cost. We must support funding for innovative research in finding a cure. We must support the regulation of affordable drugs for all Africans infected by this deadly disease. We must support the development of comprehensive HIV/AIDS policy for Africa.

As a civil society, we ourselves must unite to confront this dilemma head on, to defeat this plague which has us anxious and on the run. It is time for us to stop running and start to act.

SEC CHAIRMAN PITT SHOULD NOT
RESIGN

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the recent calls by some of

our colleagues for Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Harvey Pitt to resign in the wake of the public disclosure of inaccurate corporate accounting measures and other problems on Wall Street.

Mr. Pitt should resign, they say, because in his term of office he has done nothing to crack down on corporate abuse of the law and because he is too "cozy with the business community." These calls for Mr. Pitt's resignation are the epitome of hypocrisy. These schemes were hatched in the mid to late 1990s and the Bush administration inherited our current situation. Where was the SEC then? And why haven't these individuals who have been recently critical of the SEC only spoken up in the last week if they believed no one was "minding the store?"

The President correctly said recently that some corporate executives lack an "ethical compass." But the current cycle of free-wheeling financial dealings did not begin with the Bush Administration but during the heady, consequence-free years of the Clinton Administration. The calls for Mr. Pitt to step down are political posturing of the worst kind. President Bush said he believes that Mr. Pitt should get a chance to do the job for which the Senate confirmed him.

The President has decided to give Mr. Pitt that chance, and so should my colleagues in Congress.

WE WILL LEAD ON, JUSTIN DART

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has never seen the likes of Justin Dart. His vision, his dedication, and his passion for improving our country and the lives of our people were unwavering. What he accomplished during his lifetime was nothing short of miraculous. Justin Dart's contributions for equality for persons with disabilities and for justice for all people will be felt for generations to come. He would have expected nothing less of himself and from those who joined him in the struggle.

Justin Dart was a trailblazer for justice. For 30 years, with his lifetime partner, companion, friend and wife Yoshiko, and with many of us following closely behind, he led the way for the radical empowerment of persons with disabilities and for universal healthcare.

Justin Dart's life was changed forever when he contracted polio and the doctors proclaimed that he was only 3 days away from death. Those 3 days turned into 40 years. Polio left him in a wheelchair, but Justin often said, "I count the good days in my life from the time I got polio." He used each and every day to the fullest. He traveled, organized, spoke, and enjoyed every minute of it.

He began his advocacy campaign in earnest following his visit to a rehabilitation center for children with Polio in Vietnam in 1966. He would later write of the scene of young starving children left to suffer. "That scene is burned forever in my soul. For the first time in my life I understood the reality of evil, and that I was a part of that reality." Since that day forward, he dedicated himself and his resources to what he believed to be the most basic of

human and civil rights—the right to live free and in dignity. Through sheer will, he fought to end the centuries old discrimination against people with disabilities.

Because of his years of hardwork, along with those who joined him in the fight, people with disabilities in this country finally received what is rightfully theirs, but what took so many years and so many struggles to achieve. In 1990, with Justin Dart on the podium, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law. Understanding that without a grass-roots movement, there is no catalyst for change, Justin Dart did not miss the opportunity to protest that the fact that he and only two other disability advocates were on stage when President George Bush signed the ADA. He said, "hundreds of others should have been there as well."

Justin Dart, the father of the ADA, did not stop, did not rest, but instead pushed ahead with another cause after the victory of 1990. Universal healthcare became his passion and he once again traveled the nation calling himself "a full-time citizen soldier in the trenches of justice." When he spoke in Chicago in the early 1990s on universal healthcare, people drove hundreds of miles to hear him. He later fought tirelessly against attempts to weaken or even repeal the ADA and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He turned back the attacks. Once again, Justin Dart was victorious.

In his lifetime, Justin Dart was unwavering in his convictions. And in his final words to us, he wrote, "Thanks to you, I die in the beautiful belief that the revolution of empowerment will go on. I love you so much. I'm with you always. Lead on! Lead on!" Justin, we will.

EXPRESSING REGRET AND SYMPATHY FOR FAMILIES OF THE
UKRAINIAN COAL MINERS
KILLED ON JULY 7, 2002

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my humblest condolences to the families of the thirty-five coal miners who lost their lives in a July 7th fire in Donetsk, Ukraine.

The terrible loss of life in Donetsk hits home on a number of levels. A tragedy of this magnitude is suffered not only by the families who lost their loved ones but the larger community. As the representative of a sizeable Ukrainian-American community and the co-chairperson of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I would like to express our condolences to the families of the lost Ukrainian miners. The Ukrainian community in Monroe county, which was established over a century ago, maintains close times with their counterparts in Ukraine. In fact, in recent years, the Rochester-area Ukrainian community opened its arms to a new wave of immigrants.

As a Kentucky native, I have seen, firsthand, the enormous toll that underground mining can exact. Underground mining is dangerous. Tunnels can collapse. Coal in the mines can catch on fire. Sometimes there are poisonous gases near coal. In the U.S., the modernization of mining methods has made it

less dangerous but there is always risk. I appreciate that Ukraine's efforts at enhancing its economy and modernizing its industrial structures has not been without setbacks. However, I am troubled by the fact that this terrible incident is not an isolated one.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine's mines have one of the highest accident rates in the world due to poor maintenance and neglect of safety regulations. This accident comes a year after a gas explosion killed at least 50 miners in Donetsk and two years after 80 miners died in another underground mining explosion. More than 3,700 miners have died since Ukraine's independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. At this time of reflection, it is my sincere hope that this terrible incident marks a turning point for Ukraine and the Ukrainian government takes substantial steps to close the roughly 200 mines that the World Bank rates as highly prone to methane blasts.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the victims' families in Ukraine, and offer my sorrow and sympathy to the people of Ukraine for this shocking tragedy that resulted in thirty-five deaths and my sincerest hope for real reforms in the Ukrainian mining industry.

RECOGNIZING THE PLANNED PARENTHOOD LOS ANGELES PROMOTORAS COMUNITARIAS TRAINING PROGRAM

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor the 10th anniversary of the Planned Parenthood Los Angeles Promotoras Comunitarias Training Program.

This innovative community outreach program started in 1991 to help promote family planning education programs in Latino communities by training women within the community to do the outreach. This is important because it helps spread the message of family planning in a culturally sensitive manner.

Not only did the program help spread much-needed information about family planning methods, it also instilled in the women who became Promotoras a sense of pride and helped them develop critical life skills. By giving their families, friends and neighbors vital health care information and then facilitating access to gynecological health care, Promotoras are empowering women to advocate for their own health care. In return, these dedicated women were able to develop job skills, communication methods and leadership traits.

In short, the Promotoras program has helped thousands of women in my area learn about gynecological care and domestic violence prevention. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable organization.

CARLTON REESE, MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the life of Carlton Reese today. Professor Reese led the Freedom Choir in Birmingham during the days of struggle in the 1960's and continued to lead it to his death this month. He provided the soul to the movement—without him the struggle might have failed or fallen into violence and disorder.

He was the original writer of the great anthem of the movement, "We Shall Overcome," now one of the most well known songs in the world and sung everywhere that people are struggling for freedom. It has been sung in the freedom rallies in Chile, in democratic rallies in Turkey and in the bomb shelters of Hanoi. In this song, Professor Reese left a permanent legacy of freedom, equality, peace and hope for all to come.

At the tender age of 17, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth asked him to be the music director of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, which organized and directed the demonstrations in Birmingham. It was his music that defined the movement and its spirit. Some of that music can be found on the Smithsonian Institute's CD, "Voices of the Civil Rights Movement."

When he graduated from Miles College in the '60s with a teaching degree, he was blacklisted by the Birmingham School system, and had to go to Tupelo, Mississippi to begin his career as a teacher. The Birmingham school system said that they did not want teachers who had been in jail—even if imprisoned for their commitment to freedom.

Upon returning to Alabama to teach in the Shelby County schools, South of Birmingham, he became Minister of Music at the New Bethlehem Baptist Church in Dolomite, where he served for over 40 years, turning down positions with many of the great gospel churches throughout the nation. This humble giant of freedom and music also served as a Deacon in the church, Religious Education Consultant, Youth Staff Worker, Advisor to the Senior Citizens Program and Financial Planner for the building fund.

Upon returning to Birmingham, he reorganized the Freedom Choir, which later took the name of the Sacred and Heritage Singers. Using this as a base, he became the Music Director for the City-Wide Unity Breakfast Program, and annual major event in Birmingham which brings members of the white and Black communities together to celebrate our progress and unity.

We have lost this great freedom fighter, but he will march on wherever people struggle for freedom, peace and the human family. His music will be sung wherever people are celebrating their victories. His music will be sung in every valley and on every hill of this planet. Carlton Reese will be with us forever. He has overcome!

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF 35 MINERS IN UKRAINE ON 7 JULY 2002

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the families and comrades of 35 Ukrainian miners who died Sunday, 7 July 2002, in a mining accident in eastern Ukraine. I also offer my condolences to the people of Ukraine who have suffered too many such tragedies in the years since independence, as a result of an aging mining sector that is in dire need of reform and modernization.

Ukraine's miners have endured turmoil for too long. Miners have been forced to work under intolerable and life-threatening conditions, in some cases without being paid for years. It is estimated Ukraine's mining industry employs about half a million people in 193 mines, mostly in the eastern region of the country. However, the mortality rate in Ukraine's coalmining industry is staggering, with five to six miners lives sacrificed for every ton of coal produced, constituting nearly 4,000 deaths in the last 11 years.

Mr. Speaker, despite the obvious threat to its citizens, Ukraine's government has resisted shutting down unsafe mines. Rather, it appears avoiding profit loss, instability from mass unemployment and lack of heating coal far outweigh the considerations for human life.

In August this year, I intend to lead a Congressional Delegation to countries surrounding the Black Sea, including Ukraine. One focus of this trip will be on the mining industry to gain a better understanding of the crisis facing Ukraine and to help alleviate the suffering of miners and their families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 293 and 294, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

RECOGNIZING THE REDEVELOPMENT OF STAPLETON

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Forest City Stapleton, Inc., for their role in the redevelopment of the former Stapleton International Airport in Denver, Colorado.

Stapleton International Airport served as Denver's municipal airport from 1929 to 1995. After that function ended with opening of the new Denver International Airport, there was much discussion about what to do with the 7.5 square mile Stapleton property—land that